

**Indiana Office of Community and Rural Affairs  
2016 Regional Conferences  
April 1, 2016 – Columbia City Agenda**

8:30    **Registration**

9:00    **Welcome**

Mayor Ryan Daniel, City of Columbia City

9:15    **OCRA Introduction**

Ashlee Fiandaca, OCRA Northeast Community Liaison

9:30    **Program Updates and Overview**

Geoff Schomacker, OCRA Deputy Director

*Agency updates including program goals and successes with a generous focus on Indiana Main Street developments.*

10:00    **What does OCRA look for in competitive grant applications?**

Matt Crouch, OCRA Senior Project Manager

Aletha Dunston, OCRA CDBG Program Manager

Colette Childress, OCRA Project Manager

*This panel, moderated by Heather Presley-Cowen, Adjunct Director for Community Development Initiatives with High Performance Government Network, will provide individuals with the increased ability to write a competitive application. This presentation, paired with a question and answer panel will help further ready communities.*

10:30    **Networking Break**

10:45    **Community Performance Indicators (CPI)**

Bill Konyha, OCRA Executive Director

Matt Crouch, OCRA Senior Project Manager

Jennifer Vandeburg, OCRA North Central Community Liaison

*Learn about ways to use data to understand your community's performance. This will be both instructional and hands on and will result in an understanding of the data and how it relates to your community.*

11:45    **Whitley County Bicentennial**

Russ Gilliom, Whitley County Bicentennial Coordinator

*An update on the upcoming Bicentennial Celebration in Whitley County.*

12:00    **Lunch**

12:30    **Keynote Address**

Indiana Lieutenant Governor Eric Holcomb

(over)

1:00 **Indiana Rural Health**  
Ally Orwig, Indiana Rural Health Association Project Coordinator

*Learn about opportunities for rural communities to promote and enhance health and wellness through collaboration, promotion and prevention. Highlighted programs include the Indiana Telehealth Network, Upper Midwest Telehealth Resource Center and the Indiana Rural Workforce Innovation Network as well as how to engage other rural health resources will also be addressed.*

1:45 **Networking Break**

2:00 **Historic Renovation Grant Program**  
Colette Childress, OCRA Project Manager

*A million dollar opportunity replacing the Indiana Historic Tax Credit to enhance Hoosier historic structures.*

2:15 **Listening Session**

*This session will be an open forum to share your thoughts with OCRA about community economic development in smaller cities and towns. How might OCRA be an even better partner and resource to your community?*

3:00 **Adjourn**